AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of protecting against ultraviolet light comprising providing a porous titanium oxide powder that is formed from titanium oxide primary particles agglomerated together, said primary particles having ~~and has~~ a mean ~~particle~~ diameter of 0.01 to 100 ~~μm~~ microns, the porous titanium oxide powder having a specific surface area of 327 to 500 m^2/g; ~~and~~ wherein the powder has an approximately spherical shape with the ratio of the minor axis to the major axis being at least 0.75.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The ~~porous titanium oxide powder according to~~ method of claim 1, wherein the titanium oxide primary particles have a mean particle diameter of 1 to 50 nm.

Claim 3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (currently amended): The ~~porous titanium oxide powder according to~~ method of claim 1, wherein the crystalline form of the titanium oxide primary particles is rutile.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The ~~porous titanium oxide powder according to~~ method of claim 1, wherein the crystalline form of the titanium oxide primary particles is anatase.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A method of manufacturing a spherical shaped porous titanium oxide powder for protecting against ultraviolet light, comprising

(a) subjecting to hydrolysis ~~a~~ an inorganic titanium salt solution ~~to hydrolysis~~ by heating ~~under~~ in the presence of ~~an aliphatic~~

(i) a polyhydric alcohol and

(ii) a substance having a carboxyl group or a carbonyl group to form a residue, and

(b) ~~then further carrying out heating treatment~~ heat treating the residue with an acid.

Claims 7-9 (canceled)

Claim 10 (currently amended): The method of ~~manufacturing a spherical shaped porous titanium oxide powder according to claim 8~~ claim 6, wherein the polyhydric alcohol is at least one selected from the group consisting of ethylene glycol, propylene glycol, 1,4-butylene glycol, 2,3-butylene glycol, 1,3-butylene glycol, dimethylpropanediol, diethylpropanediol, glycerol, trimethylolpropane, triethylolpropane, erythritol, xylitol, mannitol, sorbitol and maltitol.

Claims 11-12 (canceled)

Claim 13. (currently amended): The method of ~~manufacturing a spherical shaped porous titanium oxide powder according to~~ claim 6, wherein the substance having a carboxyl group or a carbonyl group is acetic acid.

Claim 14 (currently amended) The method of ~~manufacturing a spherical shaped porous titanium oxide powder according to~~ claim 6, ~~wherein~~ further comprising, after (b), (c) ~~the heating treatment with an acid~~, adjusting the pH ~~adjustment~~ using an alkali ~~is further carried out~~.

Claim 15 (new): A method of manufacturing a spherical porous titanium oxide powder used for protecting against ultraviolet light, comprising

(a) subjecting an inorganic titanium salt solution to hydrolysis by heating in the presence of glycerol and acetic acid, and

(b) heat treating with an acid.

Claim 16 (new): The method of claim 6, further comprising before (b),

(a1) filtering off the residue and

(a2) dispersing the residue in water.

Claim 17 (new): A method of manufacturing a spherical shaped porous titanium oxide powder, for protecting against ultraviolet radiation comprising:

(a) subjecting to hydrolysis an inorganic titanium salt solution having a concentration of 0.1 to 5 M, by heating for 1 to 12 hours at a temperature of 50°C to 100°C in the presence of a polyhydric alcohol having a concentration of 0.1 to 5 M, and a substance having a carboxyl group or a carbonyl group,

(b) filtering to isolate the resulting product residue,

(c) redispersing the product residue in water to form a slurry,

(d) heating the slurry for 1 to 12 hours at a temperature of 50°C to 100°C,

(e) filtering to isolate the resulting product,

(f) washing the product with water,

(g) redispersing the product in water,

(h) adjusting the slurry pH to 6 to 8 with alkali, and

(i) heat treating the slurry with an acid.

Claim 18 (new): The spherical shaped porous titanium oxide powder produced by the process of claim 6.